

with respect to first, second, third, and fourth information as information to protect a copyright, said first and second information are added to said digital signal; said third information is inputted and outputted to/from said digital interface together with said digital signal; and when said fourth information is stored onto said recording medium, in case of recording said digital signal, a value of said fourth information is decided from a combination of said first, second, and third information, and said fourth information is recorded onto said recording medium; and

8. An apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said first information is information to control a copy restriction of said digital signal, said second information is information to perform a control about whether said digital signal is protected against illegal use or not, said third information is information to indicate whether said digital signal has

been encrypted or not, and said fourth information is information to control the copy restriction of said digital signal recorded on said recording medium.

[illegible]